ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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DEEP INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka....The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following information in cooperation with the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) concerning common property net and troll fisheries in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (THA).

NSRAA is close to meeting chum salmon cost recovery goals. The NSRAA Board has requested a Deep Inlet re-opening schedule as follows, unless changed by a subsequent announcement.

The following rotation schedule will be in effect through October 1, 2017, unless changed by a subsequent announcement:

<u>Seine</u>: From August 30 through October 1, the purse seine fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday and Wednesday of each week.

Gillnet: From August 30 through October 1, the drift gillnet fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.

<u>Troll</u>: The troll fishery is open during periods the net fisheries are closed including:

- Trolling will be allowed from 12:01 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. on August 29.
- From August 30 through October 1, the troll fishery will be open from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., Saturday of each week.

The Deep Inlet THA is described as follows:

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 56°59.35′ N. latitude, 135°22.63′ W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Long Island to the easternmost tip of Long Island to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island to the westernmost tip of Berry Island to the southernmost tip of Berry Island to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57°00.30′ N. latitude, 135°17.67′ W. longitude to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57°00.08′ N. latitude, 135°16.78′ W. longitude and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 56°59.93′ N. latitude, 135°16.53′ W. longitude with the following restrictions:

Sandy Cove: all waters will be closed.

By emergency order issued under 5 AAC 39.265, harvesters participating in net fisheries in the Deep Inlet THA fishery are required to retain and utilize all salmon harvested this season, with the exception of Chinook salmon (see below for Chinook salmon landing restrictions). This action is being taken in order to promote full utilization of salmon, to prevent waste of salmon, to determine harvest patterns of incidentally harvested coho and sockeye salmon, and so the department and NSRAA have full and accurate reporting of returns. This requires that all sockeye and coho salmon caught in the Deep Inlet THA fishery which are retained for personal use and not sold must be reported on fish tickets at the same time other salmon harvested during the opening are off-loaded and recorded on a fish ticket. Fishermen are advised that if they have fish on board from other openings, in addition to the Deep Inlet THA fishery, they should keep them separate for reporting and sampling purposes.

Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions for the Deep Inlet THA:

- Purse seine fishermen in all Southeast Alaska waters, king salmon 28 inches or greater in length MAY NOT be retained and sold. King salmon greater than 21 inches and less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold. King salmon 21 inches or less may be retained and sold.
- Drift gillnet fishermen may retain all Chinook salmon harvested in the Deep Inlet THA.
- Troll fishermen may not retain and sell any Chinook salmon.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1E1317.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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